Ysgol Ardudwy

Bring Your Own Device Policy

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Bring Your own Device Policy (BYOD)

Mobile technology devices may be a School owned/provided or privately owned tablet, notebook / laptop/ Chromebook or other technology that usually has the capability of utilising the school's wireless network. The device then has access to the wider internet, which may include the school's learning platform and other cloud-based services such as email and data storage.

The absolute key to considering the use of mobile technologies is that the learners, staff and wider school community understand that the primary purpose of having their personal device at school is educational and that this is irrespective of whether the device is School owned/provided or personally owned.

The mobile technologies policy should sit alongside a range of polices including but not limited to the safeguarding policy, anti-bullying policy, acceptable use agreement, policies around theft or malicious damage and the behaviour policy. Teaching about the safe and appropriate use of mobile technologies should be included in the online safety education programme.

Potential Benefits of Mobile Technologies

Research has highlighted the widespread uptake of mobile technologies amongst adults and children of all ages. Web-based tools and resources have changed the landscape of learning. Learners now have at their fingertips unlimited access to digital content, resources, experts, databases and communities of interest. By effectively maximizing the use of such resources, schools not only have the opportunity to deepen learning, but they can also develop digital literacy, fluency and citizenship in learners that will prepare them for the high-tech world in which they will live, learn and work.

Personal devices

When personal devices are permitted:

- All personal devices are restricted through the implementation of technical solutions that provide appropriate levels of filtered network access

- Personal devices are brought into the School entirely at the risk of the owner and the decision to bring the device in to the School lies with the user (and their parents/carers) as does the liability for any loss or damage resulting from the use of the device in the school/college

- Staff personal devices should not be used to contact learners or their families, nor should they be used to take images of learners

- The School accepts no responsibility or liability in respect of lost, stolen or damaged devices while at the School or on activities organised or undertaken by the School(the School recommends insurance is purchased to cover that device whilst out of the home)

- The School accepts no responsibility for any malfunction of a device due to changes made to the device while on the School network or whilst resolving any connectivity issues

- The School recommends that the devices are made easily identifiable and have a protective case to help secure them as the devices are moved around the school. Pass-codes or PINs should be set on personal devices to aid security

- The School is not responsible for the day to day maintenance or upkeep of the user's personal device such as the charging of any device, the installation of software updates or the resolution of hardware issues

- Personal devices should be charged before being brought to the School as the charging of personal devices may become difficult during the school day.

User behaviour

Users are expected to act responsibly, safely and respectfully in line with current acceptable use agreements, in addition;

- The sending of abusive or inappropriate messages or content via mobile phones or personal devices is forbidden by any member of the community and any breaches will be dealt with as part of the discipline/behaviour policy

- Guidance is made available by the School to users concerning where and when mobile devices may be used

- Devices may not be used in tests or exams

- Users are responsible for keeping their device up to date through software, security and app updates. The device is virus protected and should not be capable of passing on infections to the network

- Users are responsible for charging their own devices and for protecting and looking after their devices while in the school/college

- Devices must be in silent mode on the School site and on School buses

- Users should be mindful of the age limits for app purchases and use and should ensure they read the terms and conditions before use.

- Learners must only photograph people with their permission and must only take pictures or videos that are required for a task or activity. All unnecessary images or videos will be deleted immediately

- Devices may be used in lessons in accordance with teacher direction

- Staff owned devices should not be used for personal purposes during teaching sessions, except in emergency situations

- Printing from personal devices will not be possible